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## For ghouls and boys

U.S. Bank parking lot, 5340 N. Clark St.
Get ripped at the Zombie Pub Crawl through Andersonville, organized by improv group pH Productions. Includes precrawl makeup applications and extras for those who register in advance. 2-8 p.m. Saturday. \$20-\$25: chicago zombiepubcrawl.com

#### For curvy girls

Zhou B. Art Center, 1029 W. 35th St. Fasten your seat belt for the Dangerous Curves Ahead Fashion Show, an all-sizes benefit showcase featuring looks from former "Project Runway" contestant Ra'mon-Lawrence Coleman. VIP tickets include cocktails. 6 p.m. Saturday. \$15-\$35. 312-391-5539.

#### For zinesters

Chicago Art Department, 1837 S. Halsted St. 312-286-8655

Melissa Auf der Maur, the former Hole bassist and current solo artist, graces the newest cover of Venus Zine. On Friday, she helps rock the new issue with a screening of her short film. Includes appetizers and beer. 6 p.m. RSVP required by 4 p.m.: events@venuszine.com

#### For transplants

Will's Northwoods Inn, 3030 N. Racine Ave. 773-528-4400 Wisconsinites and wannabes get a taste of home at Packerpalooza. The annual salute to the Green Bay Packers includes free burgers, brats, cheese curds and other state eats, plus cheap beer, live music and a chance to meet Hall of Famer Frank Winters. 2-7 p.m. Sunday.



### Plan your weekend with RedEye

Still looking for something to do on your days off? Check out Metromix's bigger, better weekend Playlist in Saturday's edition of RedEye, available free and only by home delivery. Subscribe now at redeyeweekend.com.



**58** 50

#### TODAY'S FORECAST

Weather not the best part of this Friday





**56** 50 Boom

500. 56 42 April showers

back



Mon. **55** 

42 At least we get



**58**43
Sun helps them

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Kappa Alpha members, dressed in Confederate military uniforms, escort dates at Centenary College in 2002. AP FILE PHOTO

# Fraternity bans Rebel uniforms

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.** A college fraternity inspired by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee has banned members around the country from wearing Confederate uniforms to "Old South" parties and parades after years of complaints that the tradition was racially insensitive.

The Virginia-based Kappa Alpha Order issued new rules to chapters earlier this year saying members aren't allowed to wear Rebel uniforms to parties or during their parades, which are a staple on campuses across the South

The decision, announced in an internal memo posted on the group's website, followed a flap last year at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where a black sorority complained after a KA parade stopped in front of its house on campus. KA members were dressed in the gray uniforms of Confederate officers, and young women wore hoop skirts.

More than 70 alumnae of the sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, sent a petition to University of Alabama President Robert Witt complaining about the use of Confederate flags and uniforms on campus.

In the memo to chapters, Kappa Alpha's national executive director, Larry Wiese, said such displays had to end.



## 'South Park' Muhammad episode airs despite threats

**NEW YORK** Comedy Central's "South Park" included a representation of the Prophet Muhammad as a character this week despite a radical Muslim group's warning that its producers could be killed.

Muhammad appeared on Wednesday night's episode of the cartoon with his body obscured by a black box, since Muslims consider a physical representation of their prophet to be blasphemous. Last week, the character was believed to be disguised in a bear costume. When that same costume was removed this week, Santa Claus appeared.

The bear costume had angered the New York-based group Revolution Muslim, which posted a message on its Web site saying that producers Trey Parker and Matt Stone had insulted their prophet.

The message included a gruesome picture of Theo Van Gogh, a Dutch filmmaker murdered by a Muslim extremist in 2004 after making a movie about a woman who rejected Muhammad's teachings. The message said the "South Park" producers would "probably wind up like Theo Van Gogh" for airing the show.

The posting included Comedy Central's New York address, as well as the address for Parker and Stone's California production studio. Parker and Stone are known for waiting until the last minute before turning in fresh episodes. This week's epi-



sode contained no direct reference to the warning, although one inside joke could be interpreted as one.

During one scene, a mechanized Barbra Streisand robot is seen stomping through the town on a path of destruction. One voice is heard to say, "they've destroyed La Casa Bonita!" "La Casa Bonita" is the name of Parker and Stone's production facility.

Comedy Central also censored 35 seconds of a conversation toward the end of the show between the characters Stan, Jesus Christ and Santa Claus. The network wouldn't say Thursday whether this contained any reference to the events.



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**KYRA KYLES** kkyles @tribune.com

#### **YOUR TURN**

Tell Kyra what you think about the ticket-for-TP scandal. Go to redeyechicago. com/kylesfiles and comment about whether this alleged act was justified or just disgusting. You can sign on using your Facebook or Twitter user name and password, so it's a snap to sound off.

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH WITH KYRA**

- » Follow her: @thekylesfiles » E-mail her:
- kkvles@ tribune.com

## Poop protest: Just don't do it

A pile of manure taught me a powerful lesson in civil disobedience. I was strolling down Illinois Street on Thursday morning, minding my own business.

Suddenly, I was under full olfactory assault.

I felt my gag reflex kicking in. I doubled over and very nearly lost last night's dinner right there on the glorious green grass made possible by some acrid-smelling, awful manure.

I didn't realize the deeper significance of the experience until moments after I'd fled the scene. That's when I gained appreciation and empathy for a faceless employee somewhere in the village of Bartlett who last week received a parking ticket smeared with human feces.

Yes, it sounds like a plot line from "Beavis & Butthead," but it happened. A 22-year-old Bartlett man is now facing criminal charges after a village employee complained of a parking ticket with "brown stains and a foul odor."

The only thing more outrageous than allegedly using a ticket for TP is seeming support for it. I don't expect much from anonymous Internet trolls who comment on **chicagotribune.com**, so it came as no shock that some of these angry individuals interpret the gesture as a stand for democracy. Heck, it sounded like some were ready to form the TP Party.

But I am disappointed by otherwise intelligent individuals who have expressed—on Twitter and Facebook—that they can see where Mr. TP/Ticket is coming from.

Yeah, I can see too. Straight out of a "South Park" plot line. Nobody, and I mean nobody, should express solidarity with the Bartlett version of Mr. Hankey.

I won't deny I initially found the story amusing. I laughed like a third-grader for several maniacal minutes as I imagined the alleged perpetrator carrying his stained "statement" to the mailbox.

But after my own brush with the mere scent of manure, I now imagine the horror of the innocent individual on the receiving end of this petty prank. That level of punishment is too steep for the most tyrannical of ticketers, let alone an innocent bystander merely doing his or her job.

That's important to remember in a city where red light cameras spy upon us from on high, parking meters expire as we dawdle at our favorite coffee shops and—as I recently experienced—the mighty towing hook comes a calling.

If you feel a fine is unfair, it's understandable to want to give The Man a piece of your mind.

But in the name of human decency, register your disdain through an e-mail, a phone call or snail mail.

In short: Say it, don't stain it.



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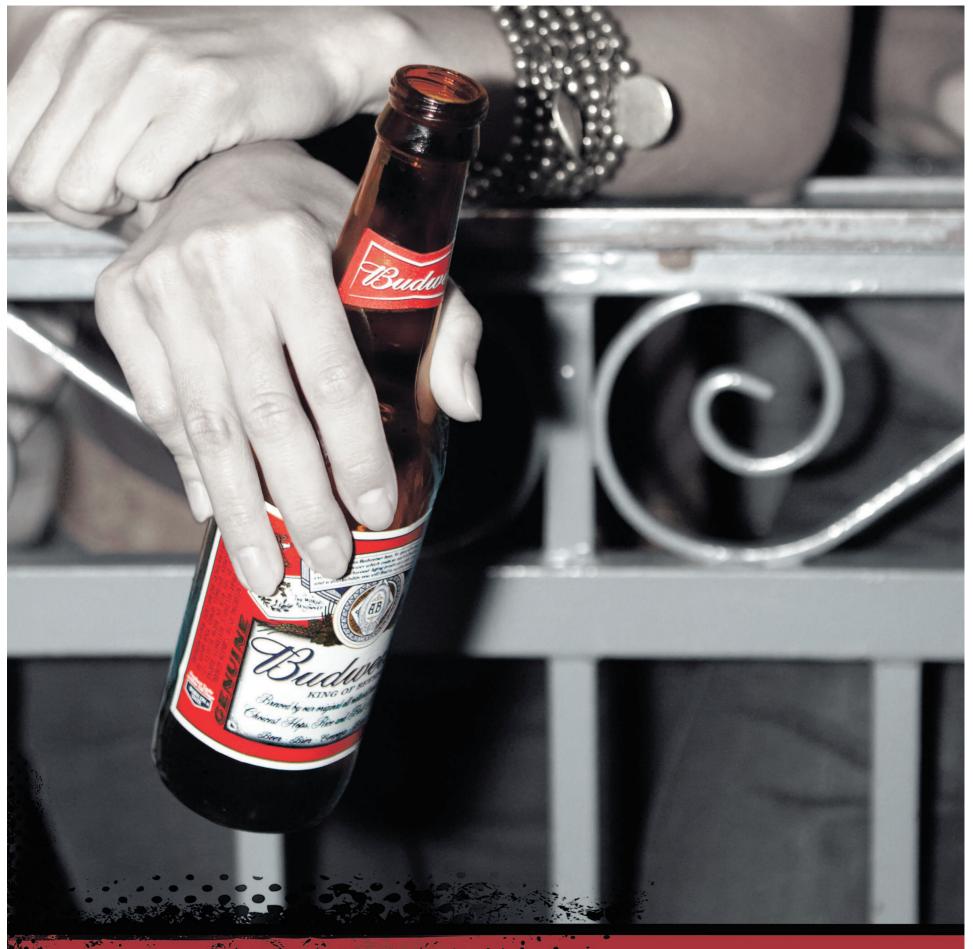
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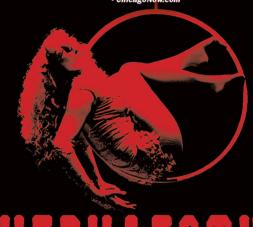
snag a ticket before they're gone."

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## chicago

## Blago wants Obama to testify

#### **Chicago Tribune**

Just weeks before the start of his federal corruption trial, former Gov. Rod Blagojevich sought Thursday to tie his credibility to that of President Obama by asking that the leader of the free world be compelled to testify for the defense.

The 11-page court filing by the ex-governor's attorneys attempted to protect sensitive details by blacking out references to sealed investigative records. But it became an instant Internet sensation because of a computer glitch that enabled people to view the entire document—a mixture of new allegations and old details that combined to create fresh intrigue over charges Blagojevich sought to sell the Senate seat vacated by Obama when he was elected in 2008.

Stringing together tidbits from closely held FBI interviews and secretly taped phone conversations, Blagojevich's lawyers suggested there is more to the story of the Senate pick than either federal prosecutors or the White House have acknowledged. And they suggested only Blagojevich and Obama know the details that will prove the former governor's innocence.

Quoting from a sealed prosecution memo, the defense team aired a previously undisclosed allegation that convicted influence peddler Antoin "Tony" Rezko told investigators he tried to buy Obama's favor with illegal campaign contributions. Rezko was a top fundraiser for Obama and Blagojevich, and the defense filing sought to have the president refute those claims and in the process discredit Rezko.

The White House declined to react to Blagojevich's latest actions.

The defense filing represents a ratcheting up of the pre-trial chess game just a day after U.S. District Judge James Zagel admonished Blagojevich to quit grandstanding. Zagel also made it clear he would not comply with the former governor's demand that all 500 hours of government wiretaps be played for jurors.



Family and friends react to the news that Cynia Cole was pronounced dead after being shot. WILLIAM DESHAZER/TRIBUNE

## CHILD KILLED

#### **20-MONTH-OLD GIRL WAS IN CAR WITH FAMILY WHEN GUNMAN OPENED FIRE**

#### **Chicago Tribune**

Jerome Hendricks dug his hands into his pockets Thursday, slumped his shoulders and wept. His daughter's blood stained the oversized black jacket that draped his shaking body.

Upstairs, inside Comer Children's Hospital, his 20-month-old daughter, Cynia, was dying. And he believed the bullet lodged in her head—killing her less than an hour later—was meant for him.

Late Wednesday, Hendricks, 25, had been sitting in a car with his three young daughters when a gunman darted out of a gangway in the 600 block of East 92nd Place, police said. Two of the girls began screaming, but Cynia was silent. "Coco shot! Coco shot!" one of the sisters cried.

"I knew my baby was hit," Hendricks said. Police and the family believe the suspect, who later turned himself in to police, targeted Hendricks out of retaliation. The suspect allegedly targeted Hendricks because he believed Hendricks, whom he considered a

friend, was going to testify as a defense witness for a man who tried to kill the suspect in March, a law enforcement source said.

The defendant in that other case, Michael Wilson, 22, was arrested and charged with attempted murder for shooting the suspect in the groin, according to court documents. Wilson lives on the block where Wednesday night's shooting occurred. Hendricks said he knew the alleged shooter from the neighborhood, but denied he was going to testify at an upcoming attempted murder trial.

The night of the shooting, Jerome and his family—Cynia, known to everyone as Coco, her sisters Jania, 4, Amazing, 8, and their mother, Alberta Cole—were on their way to the girls' grandmother's house after visiting Coco's aunt when they stopped by a neighborhood house to buy some cigarettes, Hendricks said.

Cole waited on the porch for someone to open the door when she said the hooded gunman fired at the car. She eased back onto the porch so he wouldn't know she was there. His hood fell and she said she recognized him from the neighborhood.

Speeding away, Hendricks reached into the back of the car, took the little girl out of her car seat and held her head as drove to his mother's home around the corner. His mother, Cynthia Lyons, a nurse, applied pressure to the wound behind the girl's ear until an ambulance arrived and took her to the hospital.

At the hospital Thursday, the family held out hope that Coco would pull through.

She was supposed to start preschool in September, her mother said as her lips quivered and tear after tear streamed down her cheeks

Around 12:30 p.m., the suspect's family called the Rev. James Meeks to say the man wanted to turn himself in but was afraid for his safety. Meeks said he accompanied the man and his mother when they met police at Area 2 headquarters three hours later. The Tribune is not naming the suspect because he has not yet been charged.



A Yellow Cab driver points out a security camera mounted above his rearview mirror as he drives toward his destination. About 1,000 cameras have been installed in Chicago cabs, with more coming in the next few years. ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE PHOTO

# More Chicago taxis rolling out cameras

#### **Chicago Tribune**

The next time you open a taxicab door in Chicago, you may want to say, "Cheese."

In an effort to thwart crimes against cabdrivers, thousands of small security cameras will be installed in taxis across the city in the next few years to photograph passengers as they get in and out of the vehicles.

Some taxicab owners have hailed the high-tech move, launched by a change in city ordinances three years ago, as a welcome alternative to ineffective plastic partitions that have been a mainstay of cabs for decades.

The cameras, which already have been used to solve one cab-related crime, are yet another example of Mayor Daley's efforts to blanket the city with electronic eyes in a bid to decrease crime.

About 1,000 cameras have been installed in cabs so far, but more are coming. One of the largest companies predicts all of its cabs will have cameras by 2012.

#### **HOW DO THEY WORK?**

The tiny camera sits above the rearview mirror and takes a panoramic picture of the cab when someone enters, or when the fare meter is turned on, and as passengers leave. Cabs must have signs informing passengers they will be photographed. Drivers who feel threatened can push a panic button to get more pictures of the passengers.

Selvin Quire, a Chicago cabdriver for almost 30 years, said he feels safer since cameras were installed a few months ago.

"They see the camera, and they hold back," Quire said of men he thinks may have attempted to rob him recently. "They get scared. It's a lot better."

Cabdrivers have been victims of highprofile crimes recently. Last month, a driver was shot five times by a passenger in Zion. And on the North Side the same month, a driver was stabbed multiple times.

A University of Illinois at Chicago survey in 2008 showed more than one-fifth of Chicago-area drivers said they had been attacked or threatened with violence by a passenger.

City officials tried to quell such crimes in 1997 by requiring that cabs be fitted with bullet-resistant partitions.

But many drivers say the partitions are useless. Most don't keep the partitions closed because they're cumbersome and restrict ventilation.

"If someone wanted to rob me, they'll get out, come to the passenger side and shoot me," said Folarin Odusanya, 48, who has driven a taxi in Chicago for

In 2007, the city's Department of Consumer Services pushed a change in the law allowing cab owners to install cameras instead of partitions in cars.

Chicago followed New York, Los Angeles and other cities that instituted similar rules.

### **Marquette Park** victims mourned

Surrounded by hundreds of friends and family members, Keshia Larry stooped over her 16-year-old daughter's coffin Thursday, wrapped the girl in her arms and wept.

Then she moved several steps to the right, bent over another small pink coffin and held her 3-year-old daughter's body one last time.

The sisters—shot and killed last week as they slept in their Marquette Park home-were victims of an early morning rampage that shook Chicago's Southwest Side and also claimed the lives of their pregnant aunt and 7-monthold cousin. Police later charged Larry's brother, James, with opening fire in the family's

Keyshai Fields, who also was pregnant, and her sister, Keleasha Larry, were found shot to death in the same bed.

At a Baptist church in Fuller Park on Thursday, the community remembered them as gentle and carefree girls whose lives ended before they had really begun.

"[Keleasha] was not a very outspoken child. but she had a way of expressing herself," said her preschool teacher Alicia Dodd-Jordan. "She loved colors-bright colors, vivid colors. She was, as Momma used to affectionately call her, 'Momma's little hippie.' "

#### 3 bodies found in stolen car

Chicago police are investigating the deaths of three men whose bodies were found in a stolen car on the city's West Side.

The Cook County medical examiner's office says all three men, including two brothers, had been beaten and died of blunt force trauma. The autopsies were performed Thursday.

The men were identified as brothers Tyrece Bailey, 23, and Stephen Bailey, 25. The third victim was Crawford Davis, 23. All three were from

#### **Quinn backs off taxing downloads**

Gov. Pat Quinn says he isn't interested in taxing music or video downloads to help the state dig out of a \$13 billion budget hole.

The administration floated the idea with lawmakers. But Quinn on Thursday said he's focused on his call to raise the state income tax by onethird to avoid deep cuts in education.

Quinn's plan doesn't look to be gaining traction with no sign that lawmakers are interested in voting on a tax increase.

#### **Exam ordered in Darien case**

A DuPage County judge on Thursday ordered a complete mental health exam for a Countryside man accused of fatally shooting three members of a family in their Darien home in March.

Judge John Kinsella ordered that Jacob Nodarse be examined for both his sanity and his fitness for trial. Nodarse, 23, is charged with murdering members of the Kramer family at the direction of Johnny Borizov, the ex-boyfriend of Angela Kramer and the mother of his child.

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Mexican soldiers escort Jose Gerardo Alvarez-Vasquez on Thursday. AP PHOTO

Alleged trafficker caught Troops battled a suspected drug gang in a wealthy neighborhood on the outskirts of Mexico City and captured an alleged major trafficker with a \$2 million U.S. bounty on his head, officials announced Thursday.

**Burning oil rig sinks** A deepwater oil platform that burned for more than a day after a massive explosion sank into the Gulf of Mexico on Thursday, creating the potential for a major spill as it underscored the slim chances that the 11 workers still missing survived.

Illinois man sues pope An Illinois man who says he was molested by a Wisconsin priest as a child filed a federal lawsuit Thursday accusing Pope Benedict XVI and senior Vatican officials of failing to protect children from a man the Vatican knew was a possible child molester. The Vatican says the lawsuit is a publicity stunt.

Tarmac rules to stay Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said Thursday he has turned down requests from five airlines for temporary exemptions to a rule against keeping passengers waiting longer than three hours on airport tarmacs.

**Arrested over orgy post** A Connecticut man who was feuding with his neighbor targeted her in an explicit online posting that invited strangers to a rowdy orgy with a bored soccer mom, police said.



Staff members and volunteers from the Turtle Hospital watch a sea turtle named Pal return to the wild Thursday in Marathon, Fla. The turtle was treated for an impacted digestive system. AP PHOTO

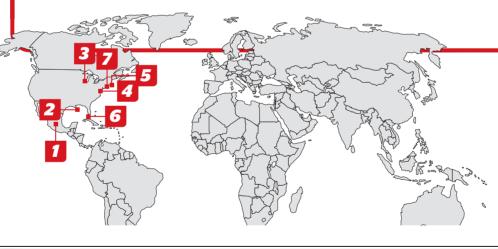
## **Obama** slams Wall St.

**NEW YORK** President Obama rebuked Wall Street for risky practices Thursday even as he sought its leaders' help for "updated, commonsense" banking regulations to head off any new financial crisis.

"Ultimately there is no dividing line between Main Street and Wall Street. We rise or we fall together as one nation. So I urge you to join me," Obama said in a high-stakes speech near the nation's financial hub. His audience included some of the nation's most influential bankers.

The president acknowledged differences of opinion over how to best protect bailout-weary taxpayers but denounced criticism from some Republicans who claim a Democratic-sponsored bill headed for Senate action would encourage rather than discourage future bailouts of huge banks.

"That makes for a good sound bite, but it's not factually accurate. It is not true," Obama said to scattered applause. "In fact, the system as it stands-the system as it stands is what led to a series of massive, costly taxpayer bailouts." He said the overhaul legislation would put a stop to such bailouts.



#### **THE DIGIT**

## 2 million

The number of people classified by the government as "Internet addicts" in South Korea, a nation of 49 million. In one case last month, police said a couple let their 3-month-old starve while they raised a virtual child in an online game.





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## sports

#### TOTALLYSWEET!



#### 6:34 P.M.

Derrick Rose scores the last five points of the first quarter for the Bulls as they go up 32-21.

## M. Rose scores the last five f the first quarter for

7:06 P.M.
Bulls lead 56-45 at the half. Rose nearly pulls off an incredible last-second shot.

#### 45 at the 7:59 P.M.

Deng drives to the hoop on LeBron James, makes a slick move and nails the reverse layup. Bulls up 11.

#### 6:12 P.M.

Luol Deng scores on a fast break, then he intercepts the Cavaliers' inbound pass and slams it to put the Bulls up 6-2. Fast start.



#### 6-28 P M

Ron Howard spotted courtside. He's still Opie to us.

#### 7:00 P.M.

Shaquille
O'Neal misses
a dunk. For a
7-footer, that's
a no-no.

#### 7:41 P.M.

8:00 P.M.

like it.

Patrick Sharp scores on a rebound in front of Pekka Rinne on a power play, put-

ting the Blackhawks

up 1-0. That's more

Blackhawks, Predators gets under way. Nerves frayed.

6:00 / 6:15 6:30 6:45 7:00 7:15 7:30 / 7:45 8:00 8:15

#### 6:07 P.M.

Benny the Bull dangles over the crowd on a cable. That's appropriate considering the Bulls' season is hanging by a thread.

#### 6:57 P.M.

Mo Williams cuts the once-16-point lead to nine points. Mo Williams, mo problems.

## JKAWA

Blackhawks, Bulls. Two teams on the edge of postseason obscurity. Two games that could turn their playoff series around. It was a big night in Chicago sports, one of those nights that keeps sports fans on the edge of their seats. RedEye was there, every maddening step of the way. Here's how it went—complete with a mood meter for the key moments.

Antawn
Jamison pokes
Rose in the eye.
Bulls cannot
afford an injury
to their prized
possession.

7:29 P.M.

#### 7:46 P.M.

Cavaliers get within 10 on Williams' 3-pointer. Time to panic?

7:51 P.M.

Kopecky

hit in the

face with a

Predators

stick, then

spits something onto the ice. His teeth?

Tomas



8:07 P.M.

Predators get a

5-on-3 power

play because

of penalties

on Kopecky

and Dave

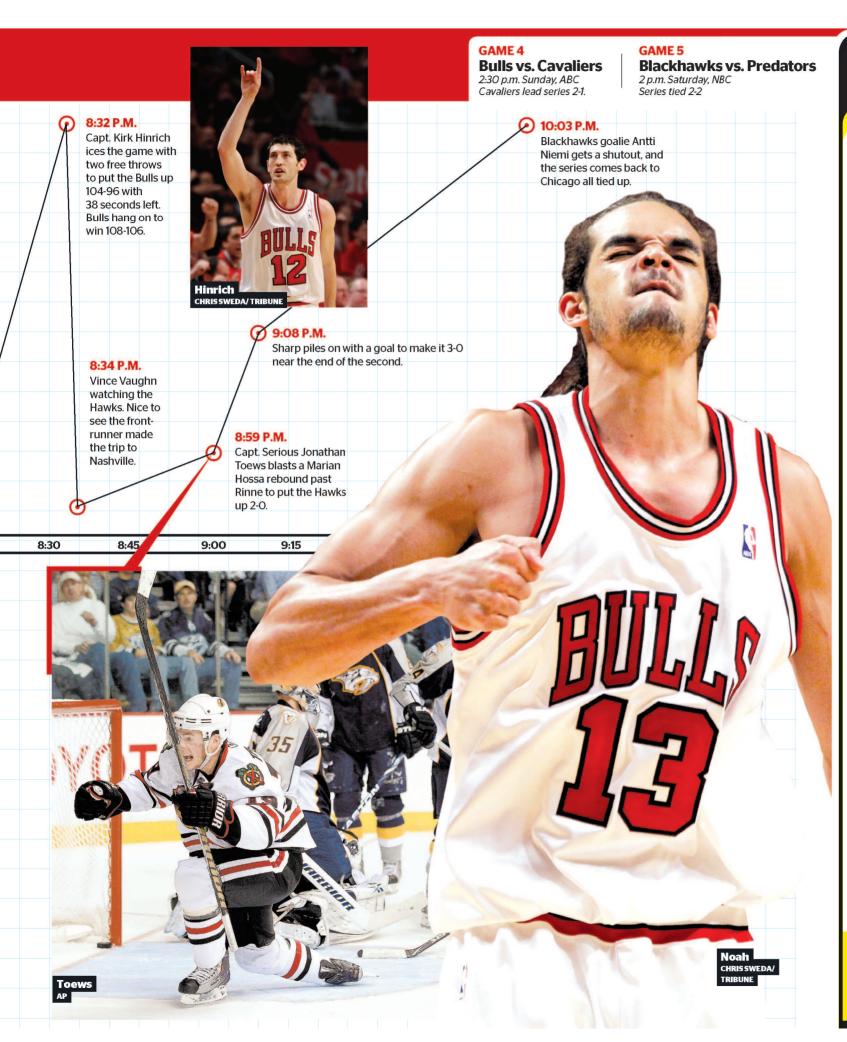
Bolland.

Uh-oh.

Cavaliers cut the lead to eight points. Thanks to, guess who, King James. Can't keep a good team down.



**TOTAL CRAP!** 



## Hey, beardman

DAY 9

Blackhawks Colin Fraser and Andrew Ladd and RedEye's Jimmy Greenfield and Alex Quigley are all growing NHL playoff beards. Who's winning? Text "beard" followed by the number of your choice to 87708 or go to bit.ly/heybeardman.



1. Colin Fraser



2. Andrew Ladd



3. Jimmy Greenfield



4. Alex Quigley

#### SHOW US YOUR BEARD

Go to **beardathon.com/ blackhawks** and submit your pic—and raise money for charity too.

## DROID DOES APPS.

yelpa



### Sweet home

Our Friday guest is Hank Bausch from Homewood, Heh, heh, Homewood, Sign up at redevechicago.com/5on5.



**PHIL THOMPSON** 







SOXMAN



If the Blackhawks season were a movie, it would be ...

TOPIC

... "The Losers" is too obvious. Gotta go with "Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too?"

... "American nightmare: Predator defending and the score closure of the American dream."

... "Clash of the Titans." Huge hype, not much payoff. (But the Hawks still have hope.)

... "Predator." They fight for their lives against an enemy they didn't see coming. ... "Lord of the Rings" because it's turning into an epic failure.

What does LeBron James really mean when he says Chicago is an "awesome city"?

That's let-you-down-easy talk: "You're an awesome city, Chicago, but I'm just not that into you."

That unlike Cleveland. Chicago is the City that Works-at losing in sports.

"You read my mind, Joakim. I'm outta here!'

This is the pending free agent terminology for "no thanks'

"I live in Cleveland. Muncie. Ind., is an awesome city to mel"

What's the first thing that'll happen when Carlos Zambrano makes his bullpen debut?

He'll throw some chin music ... at Lou Piniella.

He carves a "Z" into the water cooler. Like the Cubs. the watercooler doesn't fight back.

He'll collapse from exhaustion on the run in to the mound.

Hmmm. Let's just say his performance will redefine the Rolaids Relief Pitcher of the Year award.

Hopefully he doesn't punch the bullpen catcher. He's an angry man, right, Barrett?

What other roster shakeups should the Cubs make?

Have Zambrano Twitter full time on a new show called "Nit Twits with Ozzie and Big Z."

Add Kate Gosselin. Cubs could use another scapegoat to bleat them dry.

Put Snoopy at shortstop. You'll never see him doggin' it.

Demote GM Jim Hendry to waste service as he's done the job admirably with player contracts.

Put Soriano in the bullpen. Throw Samardzija in left field. They can't play any worse.

**5** How do you keep warm during a cold night baseball game in Chicago?

With the Alfonso Snuggiano.

Drvers in the women's room. Warm air is the best thing to catch in there.

The way the Cubs and Sox are playing, a bag over your head oughta do it.

Aside from the blistering heat generated from watching lagging teams? Soxgirl is a close second.

Just keep repeating "football is on its way."



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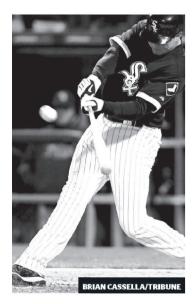
#### **DIAMOND VISION**

#### **THURSDAY'S SCORES**

- » N.Y. Mets 5, Cubs 2
- » Tampa Bay 10, White Sox 2

#### **FRIDAY'S GAMES**

- » Cubs at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m. WGN
- » White Sox vs. Seattle, 7:10 p.m CSN



## HERO OF THE DAY Mark Teahen

Went 2-for-3 with a home run. If any other White Sox played like that, it might have been a different game.

## DUD OF THE DAY Jake Peavy

Set a career high with seven walks. He also allowed seven hits and seven earned runs as his ERA is now an alarming 7.66.

#### **THE DIGIT**

**1997** That's the last time the Sox got off to a 15-game start as bad as this year's 5-10. They went 4-11 then.

#### **OZZIE'S TWEET OF THE DAY**

"Thanks comcast I watch venezuelan tv thas important in my life yesssss."



Brad Miller gets in front of Shaquille O'Neal during Game 3. The Bulls squeaked by the Cavs, 108-106. AP

## Spring chickens



Lovely spring we're having here in Chicago. Right.

To summarize: Two oneand-done playoff teams, two pathetic baseball teams and an NFL team with no (no!) picks in the first two rounds of the draft.

Let's break it down.

Hockey. Next time you make the playoffs, Black-hawks, please remember: Bring an enforcer. We don't have one; everyone is playing like wimps. And we're losing to Nashville? People, there's nothing there except the Country Music Awards.

And those are on, seriously, like every week. Country music artists seem humble, but they award themselves a lot.

Thank you Bulls for ending this early. Seriously, no prolonged playoffs. You're bad, everyone knows it, and your coach is gone. The sooner it's over, the sooner we can get on with our lives.

Football. Thank you, Michael McCaskey, for

your service as chairman. You did a great job on those shrubs outside Halas Hall. Top-notch. The good news: You're gone. The bad news: You're being replaced by another McCaskey. Gosh, it would be so cool if the McCaskeys had a son like Michael Corleone: the youngest, never was supposed to go in the family business, but ended dominating the whole business. Too bad life isn't like the movies. What a tragedy.

Also, remind me to continue sleeping through this draft. Actually, no worries about Jerry Angelo mucking things up. It's kind of nice, actually.

Baseball. Big Zero heads to the bullpen. I repeat: Your No. 1, big-time, \$18 million starter is going to the bullpen. That's the last stop out of town, Carlos Zambrano. You're a knucklehead and a hothead rolled into one. At least we don't have to worry about seeing you choke in a playoff game this year.

Oh, my beloved White Sox. So far you are unwatchable. If there's such a thing as team chemistry, they have none of it. I'd complain about the batting averages, but I think several players don't even have averages yet. It's early, but it's also over, because—what a surprise—the Twins never lose.

It will be a long, hot summer.

BAG BOY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



Uh-oh, New Orleans Saints fans. Drew Brees has landed the cover of "Madden NFL 11," which will hit store shelves Aug. 10. If the Madden curse holds up, it could be a long year for the defending Super Bowl champs.

The NCAA plans to expand the men's basketball tournament from 65 to 68 teams beginning next season after reaching a 14-year, \$10.8 billion agreement with CBS and Turner Broadcasting.



I'm worn out from all the sports this week, but not too worn out to outpredict Chris Cianciola. He challenges me almost every day. You can too. Instructions below. Here now, my picks.



## White Sox vs. Seattle 7:10 p.m. CSN

**Mariners 5, Sox 4**Milton Bradley flips
off fans, just because.



## Wolves at Milwaukee

Wolves 6, Admirals 3 Wolves win the series. They're better than the Blackhawks.



#### Rush vs. Utah 7:30 p.m.

Rush 54, Blaze 40 Undefeated Rush are in first. Funny how that works out.

#### txtable

Wanna challenge
Whizzer? Go to redeyechicago. com/whizzer or text "whiz" followed by your picks to 87708. Don't forget your name so Whizzer can give you a shoutout.

**HOT DATE** 

Nov. 20 The expected date for an Illinois-Northwestern football game at Wrigley Field, which is scheduled to be announced Friday.

metromix



## fresh spots for outdoor dining and drinking

#### By Lisa Arnett and M. Kathleen Pratt

Thanks to that recent fluke of sunny days, we've already had a reminder of how gorgeous Chicago in summer can be. But it only made us more anxious for alfresco season. When the day finally comes, we want you to be ready. From sprawling sidewalk cafes to lofty rooftop escapes,



we've zeroed in on this season's freshest new outdoor options.

### **PATIOS**

#### **Big Star**

1531 N. Damen Ave. 773-235-4039

Perhaps the most coveted outdoor seat of the season, this 123-seat patio has picnic tables for downing tacos and dulce de leche milkshakes from the walk-up window alongside a bigger section for serious boozing. Pontiac what?

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### **Small Bar Fullerton**

1415 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-525-2727

The 14-seat front patio here is tucked under the front of the building, so you can enjoy your craft beer with a side o' shade.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### **Uberstein**

1745 W. North Ave. 773-252-6053

With picnic tables and benches for 40, the walled-in patio at this bar's new Wicker Park location has a backyard-party feel.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### **Sprout**

1417 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-348-0706

The intimate 25-seat patio (it's enclosed and set back from busy Fullerton Avenue) at Dale Levitski's Lincoln Park bistro is getting a stylish makeover along with the rest of the space. Expect a French chateaustyle look with lots of greenery when it's complete.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### Jam

937 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-0302

The secluded 30-seat BYOB courtyard patio at this Ukrainian Village spot, which recently added dinner service to its repertoire, is already in full swing.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### Aldino's

626 S. Racine Ave. 312-226-9300

This just-opened rustic Italian spot at the edge of Little Italy has garden seating for about 30. Liquor permits are pending, but since it's off-street, you can BYOB for now. **ETA:** Open now, weather permitting

## **METROMIX.COM** What are you doing Saturday night? Show us! Send your pics to metromix.com/saturday.

#### **ALFRESCO CHICAGO**

Log on to chicago.metromix.com/alfresco for more on rooftop lounges, the best beer gardens, alfresco date destinations, staff favorites and more.

#### **Sweetwater**

225 N. Michigan Ave. 312-698-7111

This Mag Mile bar and grill makes the most of the neighboring plaza with a 150seat beer garden lined with flower boxes. ETA: Any day now, permit pending

#### The Purple Pig

500 N. Michigan Ave. 312-464-1744

Add wine, Mediterranean small plates and 58 seats to that long-neglected slab of concrete south of 500 N. Michigan Ave. and what do you get? We're banking on the hottest alfresco scene the Mag Mile has ever seen.

ETA: Mav 1

#### Friendship on the Lake

200 E. Lakefront Drive. 312-228-5080

Delivery has been this Chinese spot's bread and butter since it opened in October, but the sibling to Logan Square's Friendship Restaurant, located just paces from Lake Michigan, will find its real calling when the sprawling, 100-seat patio debuts.

ETA: Mid-May



#### **Sable** Kitchen & Bar

505 N. State St. 312-755-9704

Expect some serious after-work cocktailing (and casual shared-plates dining) on the 36-seat patio at this new River North spot.

**ETA:** Early May

#### Hearty

3819 N. Broadway. 773-868-9866

Dan Smith and Steve McDonagh are working on plans for a 35- to 40-seat private deck adjacent to their modern comfort food hot spot in Boystown. ETA: Pride weekend (June 25-27)

#### **Chicago Cut Steakhouse**

300 N. LaSalle St. No phone yet

There's huge outdoor potential at this yet-to-open River North steakhouse, which should seat about 75 overlooking the Chicago River.

ETA: June or July

## **ROOFTOPS**

#### **Sports Corner**

956 W. Addison St. 773-929-1441

The third floor of this recently reopened Wrigleyville classic features a full bar and all-weather SunBrite TVs (being installed any day now).

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### **The Southern**

1840 W. North Ave. 773-342-1840

The same patio for 60 and rooftop for 100-plus that reigned at Chaise Lounge are raring to go for the season with the space's new concept.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting; tenting comes off the roof May 8.

#### **Epic**

112 W. Hubbard St. 312-222-4940

If you're looking for a place to wear your new backless halter top, the huge roof deck at this River North spot is poised to deliver. ETA: Late May or early June

#### Sully's House Tap Room & Grill

1501 N. Dayton St. 312-929-2779

The lowest-key bar in the high-energy Weed Street district is making final preparations to debut seating on its second-floor rooftop. ETA: June 15

#### **Fountainhead**

1968-70 W. Montrose Ave. 773-697-8204

This Lincoln Square bar and eatery (opening Monday) has plans to make over the rooftop into an urban retreat, with flowers and shrubbery, London-style streetlights and a bubbling fountain as the focal point. That's not to mention the full bar and bathrooms.

**ETA:** July

#### The Shady Lady

712 N. Clark St. 312-624-9008

If it's too nice outside to lurk in this River North bar's candlelit basement lounge, try the 24-seat sidewalk cafe.

ETA: Open now, weather permitting

#### **M Burger**

161 E. Huron St. 312-254-8500

Seating options at this tiny Streeterville burger sensation are about to expand with a canopied 50-seat sidewalk cafe.

#### ETA: Monday

**Dos Diablos** 15 W. Hubbard St. 312-245-5252

This tequila-fueled cantina, opening next week, plans to add to River North's sidewalk scene with its own 28-seat patch for people-watching.

ETA: May 5

#### Nana

3267 S. Halsted St. 312-929-2486

Christian Solis, one of the brothers behind this organic-focused Bridgeport spot, designed the new 40-seat outdoor space to jive with the interior; expect reclaimed wicker chairs and planters with flowers and herbs.

ETA: Mother's Day (May 9)

#### **Sabor Saveur**

2013 W. Division St. 773-235-7310

Yanitzin Sanchez's French-Mex BYOB, which recently debuted its weekend brunch service, is set to add a 14-seat sidewalk cafe to Division Street's alfresco hubbub.

ETA: May 1

#### **Gemini Bistro**

2075 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2522

Chef Jason Paskewitz's neighborhood bistro narrowly missed last summer's alfresco season with a September opening; the Lincoln Park spot is now ready to roll out 36 seats.

ETA: Second week of May

#### **Dee's Place**

2114 W. Division St. 312-348-6117

Wicker Park's new spot for soul food has a dual-sided alfresco plan: a 40-seat sidewalk cafe and a BYOB garden in back with a barbecue pit and space for 20.

**ETA:** May 15

#### **Cork & Kerry at the Park**

3258 S. Princeton Ave. No phone yet

Sidewalk seating along 33rd Street is in the plans for this soon-to-open Bridgeport bar. **ETA:** Early summer

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE PRODUCER. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM. M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER. KPRATT@TRIBUNE.COM.
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## Friday draft deals



#### **THE BEER BISTRO** \$4 draft of the month;

1061 W. Madison St. 312-433-0013.

#### **BLACK ROCK**

\$2.50 PBR drafts: 3614 N. Damen Ave. 773-348-4044.

#### **BLUE BAYOU**

\$3 domestic drafts: 3734 N. Southport Ave. 773-871-3300.

#### **BOTTOM LOUNGE**

\$3 Schlitz drafts; 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

#### **CELTIC CROWN**

\$3.50 Blue Moon drafts: 4301 N. Western Ave. 773-588-1110.

#### **CHIEF O'NEILL'S PUB**

\$4 Carlsberg drafts; 3471 N. Elston Ave. 773-473-5263.

#### **CLEOS ARMITAGE**

\$3.50 Sapporo drafts; 2048 W. Armitage Ave. 773-227-6700.

#### CRFW

\$3.50 Goose Island Honker's Ale drafts; 4804 N. Broadway. 773-784-2739.

#### **THE CURRAGH**

\$2.75 Killian's Irish Red and Shock Top Belgian White drafts; 6705 Northwest Hwy. 773-774-6170.

#### THE DARK HORSE **TAP AND GRILLE**

\$3 Guinness and Smithwick's drafts; 3443 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-248-4400.

#### **DIVISION ALE HOUSE**

\$4 Lagunitas IPA drafts: 1942 W. Division St. 773-384-6886.

#### **EXIT**

\$3 PBR drafts: 1315 W. North Ave. 773-395-2700.

#### **GALLERY CABARET**

\$2 Leinenkugel drafts, \$3 Pilsner Urquell drafts; 2020 N. Oakley Ave. 773-489-5471.

#### **GANNON'S PUB**

\$3.75 Harp drafts; 4264 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-1007.

#### **GLASCOTT'S**

\$4 Stella Artois and Hacker-Pschorr drafts: 2158 N. Halsted St. 773-281-1205.

#### THE GLOBE PUB

\$4 Goose Island 312 drafts: 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

#### **GRACE O'MALLEY'S**

\$4 Harp and Smithwick's drafts: 1416 S. Michigan Ave. 312-588-1800.

#### HALLIGAN BAR

\$3 Guinness and Blue Moon drafts; 2274 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-7940.

#### **HAWKEYE'S**

\$519-ounce Kilkenny drafts: 1458 W. Taylor St. 312-226-3951.

#### **KELSEY'S**

\$2.50 Sam Adams drafts: 2265 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-1666.

#### THE ROCKING HORSE

\$4 Lagunitas drafts: 2535 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-486-0011.

#### KINCADE'S

\$3 Miller Lite drafts, \$3.50 Goose Island drafts; 950 W. Armitage Ave. 773-348-0010.

#### **LONG ROOM**

\$4 select microbrew drafts: 1612 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-665-4500.

#### **MCDUNNA'S**

\$4 Guinness drafts. 1505 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-929-0944.

#### MCFADDEN'S

\$5 domestic drafts with \$2 refills; 1206 N. State Pkwy. 312-475-9450.

#### **MCGINNY'S TAP**

\$3.50 Smithwick's drafts; 313 W. North Ave. 312-943-5228.

#### **MCM PUB AND EATERY**

\$3.25 22-ounce Old Style drafts. \$3.50 Guinness drafts; 3906 N. Cicero Ave. 773-736-2644.

#### **MESSNER'S WRIGLEYVILLE**

\$3-\$4 select domestic drafts; 3553 N. Southport Ave. 773-325-0123.

#### MR. BROWN'S LOUNGE

\$4 Leffe Blonde and Guinness drafts; 2301 W. Chicago Ave. 773-278-4445.

#### **MULLEN'S**

\$3.50 Leinenkugel drafts; 7301 N. Western Ave. 773-465-2113.

#### O'DONOVAN'S

\$1 off Carlsberg drafts; 2100 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

#### PINT

\$4 draft of the month; 1547 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-0990.

#### **PIPPIN'S TAVERN**

\$4.50 Hoegaarden drafts; 806 N. Rush St. 312-787-5435.

#### **RAVEN'S**

\$3.50 beer-of-themonth drafts: 2326 N. Clark St. 773-348-1774.

#### **RIVER SHANNON**

\$4 Magic Hat drafts. 425 W. Armitage Ave. 312-944-5087.

#### **THE SPREAD**

\$2 drafts; 2476 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-857-5074.

#### THE TEMPLE BAR

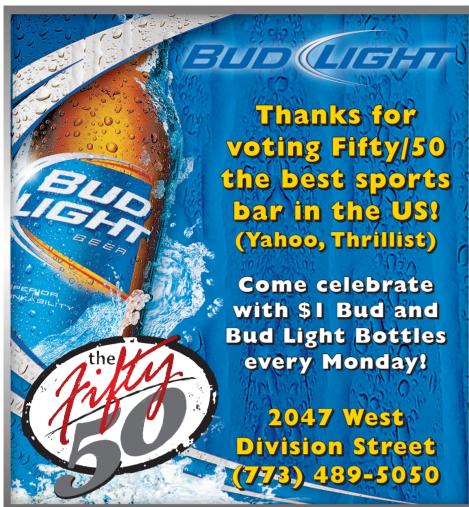
\$4 Heineken drafts: 3001 N. Ashland Ave. 773-248-0990.

#### **VAUGHAN'S PUB**

\$4 Peroni drafts; 2917 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-281-8188.

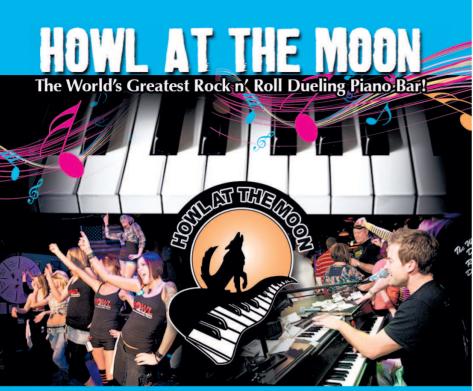
#### **YAK-ZIES**

\$2 Leinenkugel's drafts; 506 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-327-1717.









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#### FRIDAY

#### AMI SARAIYA, PERSEUS NOBLE, **CEILING STARS**

9 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

#### **BROTZMANN/DRAKE** DUO, MIKE REED'S PEOPLE, PLACES **AND THINGS 8TET**

10 p.m. \$12. Hideout. 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

#### CADILLAC CASKET, THE HYRAX. KILLING THE ENEMY

10 p.m. \$5. Amp Rock Lounge, 1909 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-376-1860.

#### **CARBON LEAF, ALEX BAND**

9 p.m. \$15. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508

**CATHY RICHARD-**

#### SON BAND, LYING **DELILAH**

9 p.m. \$15. Martyrs'. 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

#### **CEU**

9:30 p.m. \$20-\$25. Green Dolphin Street, 2200 N. Ashland Ave. 773-395-0066.

#### ELMWOOD, **DAPHNE WILLIS**

10 p.m. \$8-\$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

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8 p.m. \$10. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

#### **LAND OF THE EL CAMINOS,** MILK AT MIDNIGHT

9 p.m. \$5 donation. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-9730.

#### **MARIE DIGBY, JESSICA ROBBINS**

7 p.m. \$12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

#### MARK KNOPFLER, **PIETA BROWN**

7:30 p.m. \$54-\$109. The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. 312-462-6300.

#### MARTIN SEXTON, **RYAN MONTBLEAU BAND**

8 p.m. \$27. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-929-5959.

THE MASHERS, DUMMY,

#### **MINUTES**

9 p.m. \$8. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

#### NATE AND HIS KITE, WE THE GRANADA, **BOOTS WITH SPURS, KUAN**

6 p.m. \$8. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

#### **NOMADIC WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL: MR. SOMETHING SOMETHING**

10 p.m. \$7. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

#### **ROSALINE, TILL DEATH, VICTORIAN** HALLS, THE WORLD **ENDS WITH YOU,** A CITY OF ASHES 6 p.m. \$11. Metro,

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GRETCHEN AND THE
LOVE CATS

8 p.m. \$10. The Spot, 4437 N. Broadway. 773-728-8934

#### JARROD GORBEL, CURTIS EVANS

7 p.m. \$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

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9 p.m. \$10-\$12. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

page 29 »»



### @mmxmusic question of the week asked:

The Blackhawks clearly need motivation. What song should they listen to to pump them up, and why?

Here are some of our favorite answers. Follow @mmxmusic and watch for next week's question!

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#### @OnlySergut

"Motivation," by T.I. Title is self-explanatory!

#### @JeffreyRyan Who

Send Me An Angel by Real Life. It motivated Lori Laughlin to have a dance-off on a BMX bike in a gym!

#### @MrsDontPlay

Play the Black Eyed Peas - 2 pump up the BlackHawks. That song has Lots of energy!!

#### **Facebook**

#### **Geoff Henao**

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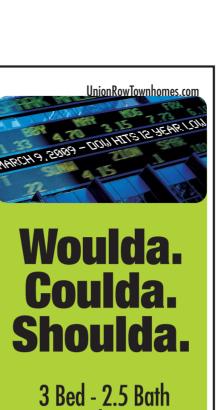
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#### «« page 26

#### THE STYRENES, **DAILY VOID,** JOHN BELLOWS

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#### YONDER MOUNTAIN DUO

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#### SATURDAY

ABBOTT SMILE. WINTER. GROUND SUPPORT, **VIOLETNESS** 8 p.m. \$8.

Subterranean

2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

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9 p.m. \$14. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

#### **ALEJANDRO** FERNANDEZ, JOAN **SEBASTIAN, MARCO** ANTONIO SOLIS

6 p.m. \$69-\$180. Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Rd., Rosemont. 847-635-6601.

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9 p.m. \$7. Benton House, 3052 S. Gratten Ave. 773-927-6420.

#### PATRECK HEREK. ON AGAIN OFF AGAIN

9 p.m. \$5 donation. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N Western Ave 773-276-9730.

#### SIA, GIRL IN A COMA 7:30 p.m. \$22.50. Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Shef-

field Ave. 773-472-0449.

#### SONGWRITER'S CIRCLE: INGRID **GRAUDINS NAOMI ASHLEY,** STEVE DAWSON. **ROBBIE FULKS. CHRIS NEVILLE**

7 p.m. \$10-\$22. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., **Evanston** 847-492-8860.

#### TONY RICE UNIT. JEFF AND VIDA

7 p.m. \$26-\$30. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000

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9 p.m. \$13-\$15. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

#### THE WINTER ME. LOLLIPOP FACTORY. **HOLLOW DRIVE, CORY HILL**

8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.



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Queensryche, Friday, Oct. 29 (\$37.99-\$43. 17+) at House of Blues.

The Script, Saturday, Oct. 23 (\$25, all ages) at Riviera Theatre.

#### **ON SALE NOON FRIDAY**

The Futureheads, The Like, Saturday, June 12 (\$15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

The Life and Times, **This Will Destroy** You, Light Pollution, Friday, June 4 (\$12-\$14, 18+) at Lincoln Hall

Matt Pond PA, Tuesday, June 8 (\$14. 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Chris Trapper, Friday, June 11 (\$14, 21+) at Schubas.

#### ON SALE 10 A.M. **SATURDAY**

**Andrew Jackson** Jihad, Tuesday, June 22 (\$10, 17+) at Beat Kitchen.

Blue Rodeo, Cuff the **Duke,** Saturday, June 12 (\$18-\$20, 21+) at Martyrs'.

**Boyce Avenue,** Friday, July 16 (\$15, all ages) at Beat Kitchen.

Crowded House, Sunday, Sept. 5 (\$46, 17+) at House of Blues.

deadmau5, Brazilian Girls, Designer **Drugs, Ghetto Division, Willy Joy,** others, Friday, July 2 (\$42.99, all ages) at Soldier Field.

Kina Grannis, Thursday, June 10 (\$10, all ages) at Beat Kitchen.

Holly Golightly and the Brokeoffs. Friday. June 18 (\$12, 17+) at Subterranean.

Jewel, Kip Moore, Friday, June 4 (\$50.50, all ages) at Vic Theatre.

**Brad Paisley, Darius** Rucker, Justin Moore, Easton Corbin, Steel Magnolia, Josh Thompson, Friday, July 16 (\$28.50-\$58.50, all ages) at First Midwest Bank **Amphitheatre** 

Peter Wolf, Saturday, May 15 (\$35, 18+) at Park West.

#### **ON SALE NOON SATURDAY**

**An Aesthetic** Anaesthetic, Or So It Goes, Loose Lips Sink Ships. **Mountains For** 

Clouds. Saturday. May 15 (\$11, all ages) at Metro.

#### **Curtis Evans.**

Saturday, June 19 (\$7, 21+; first 100 people through the door get free digital album download) at Double Door.

Goodbyehome, The **Root Cause, Strain** Busy Sky, Sunday, June 6 (\$8, 21+) at Double Door.

**Hollywood Holt,** K-Os. III Legit. **Neandathal and** Scud One featuring Brynn Bixby, Seven, others, Saturday, June 5 (\$15-\$20, 21+) at Double Door.

JC Brooks and the Uptown Sound, Blah Blah Blah, Hollows, **Lasers and Fast and** S\*\*\*, Friday, May 21 (\$10, 18+) at Metro.

Mike Pinto. Ballyhoo!. Tuesday. July 13 (\$10, 21+) at Double Door.

**Tortured Soul,** Friday, June 4 (\$15,

#### 21+) at Double Door. **ON SALE NOW**

311, The Offspring, Pepper, Tuesday, June 29 (\$45, all ages) at Northerly Island's Charter One Pavilion.

**Nick Kroll, Whitney Cummings, Chelsea** Peretti, Donald Glover, Tuesday, April 27 (\$5-\$10, 18+) at Park West.

**Purple Apple, The** Break, The Blisters, Friday, May 7 (\$9, all ages) at Metro.

Snowsera, The Moves, My Alumni, Saturday, May 1 (\$9, all ages) at Metro.



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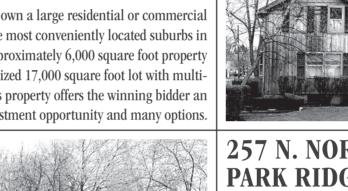
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## SALDANA'S HOT CAREER IS LOADED WITH HITS—WILL 'LOSERS' BE NEXT?

#### **By Miki Turner**

FOR REDEYE

Zoe Saldana might be pencil thin, but you definitely do not want to mess with her.

Just ask her costar in "The Losers," Jeffrey Dean Morgan. The two play adversarial lovers in the new action film, opening Friday, about a Special Forces unit that falls victim to a double cross after a rescue mission in Bolivia.

When Alisha (Saldana) and Clay (Morgan) first meet, they throw down like Uma Thurman and Lucy Liu in "Kill Bill, Vol. II." According to Morgan, Saldana got a little carried away at times.

"She clocked me in the head with a stiletto during rehearsal once," he said during an L.A. news conference for the film. "After that, I was like, 'No more high heels.'"

Saldana isn't just tough on the set; she's becoming a Hollywood force. The 31-year-old actress has been on a roll since playing Nyota Uhura in last year's mega-hit "Star Trek" reboot and Neytiri in "Avatar," the highest-grossing film of all time.

Her new comedy, "Death at a Funeral," debuted in the No. 2 spot its opening weekend. The action-packed "The Losers" could top that.

"I thought my year was coming," Morgan jokingly said, "until Zoe's year came."

Despite having a banner year, New Jersey native Saldana, who grew up in Queens and the Dominican Republic, is keeping her success in perspective.

"I know I don't only speak for myself when I say as artists you can ask for one thing: to pay the bills," she said, adding that it's a bonus "when you get to do that, and you're recognized by amazing producers and directors for all the work that you put in, and to get to work with actors that challenge you every single day."

Her character in "The Losers" tries to avenge the death of her father any way she can. Let's just say she gets mighty physical. Saldana aimed to just be one of the guys during the shoot—and at the end of each day.

"I would just have a beer with the guys," she said. "I'm a beer and wine kind of girl."

She wasn't afraid to mix it up on set either.

"When you're the only girl in the cast, I almost feel like you have twice as much work to do," said Saldana,

#### **COMIC POWER**

"The Losers" was adapted from a comic book of the same name that tells the story of an elite Special Forces unit. Vertigo published 32 issues of the comic from 2003-06. THE FRESNO BEE



#### **FAST-PAISED**

'The Losers' (R)

Perhaps the absence of big-action stars has caused studios to think all ensemble-driven comic books should be adapted to fill the void. That's not a good idea when the material is as hand-me-down as the DC Comics series-based "The Losers," whose "Your momma" jokes and subject of CIA baddies dealing weapons feels so 10 years ago. The action is not exciting and comedy is not funny as soldiers framed for the death of 25 Bolivian children work toward revenge on a group of corrupt military guys. Ensemble leaders Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Chris Evans and Idris Elba contribute little, though Columbus Short again proves his ability to stand out in bad movies. Morgan also enjoys a sexy scene with Zoe Saldana that's part attack and part seduction, like hand-to-hand foreplay. Otherwise this smug, cold movie has a few moments of coolness, but not nearly as many as it thinks. MATT PAIS, METROMIX » FIND MORE MATT REVIEWS ON PAGE 34.

who spent six months studying martial arts for her role in "Avatar." "You don't want to be singled out because you're already the only girl. If you're the one to say, 'I can't do this' or whatever, they'll be like, 'Oh my God, she's wimping out because she's a girl' or whatever.

"I toughed it out because I really wanted to impress the guys. I like being around men. I feel like I can hold my own."

Although Saldana has played plenty of girlfriend roles in such films as "Drumline," "Guess Who?" and "Center Stage," the idea of playing a helpless ingenue doesn't appeal to her. She likes "holding the gun."

"You want to play great characters," she said. "But right now, I feel like Hollywood has made a living out of portraying women to be, God, such canker sores—that we just have to be rescued all the time because we're so incompetent. In reality, sometimes art needs to reflect what's going on in real life. Today, in American society, women are doing so much."

Next up for Saldana is "Takers," which will reunite her with her "Losers" costar Idris Elba. After that, she hopes "Star Trek" writer/director J.J. Abrams, whom Saldana says she e-mails every day, finally will let her know when she can reprise her role as communications officer Uhura.

"I heard through the grapevine that it might be early next year that we'll all be stepping back in to the Enterprise," she teased. Saldana has no clue, however, when James Cameron will be ready to roll with the "Avatar" sequel.

"Now that could take 10 years. But if it does, I'll still be down," she said. "I'll just need some advance notice. It takes about six or seven months to get into that character. You just can't show up and say, 'I'm here!'"

By that time, Saldana might be such a big star that Cameron will have to wait on her. But even if she is, she'll always leave her ego in the trailer when it comes to the j-o-b, she said.

"You always have to bring it back to, 'Why did I become an artist,' " she said. "I didn't become an artist because I wanted people to know my face; I wanted them to know my work. So the past couple of years has been really validating." MIKI TURNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

### ON FASHION'S IT LIST

Fast becoming Hollywood's go-to gal for action flicks and comedies, Zoe Saldana has caught the eye of fashionistas. Even when she doesn't rock her red-carpet looks, she gets props for taking risks. REDEYE



"The Losers" premiere on Tuesday GETTY IMAGES

Golden Globes red

carpet in January

**GETTY IMAGES FILE** 



"Death at a Funeral premiere last week GETTY IMAGES



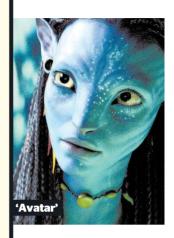
"Avatar" premiere in December



Academy Awards red carpet in March



"Star Trek" premiere in April 2009 GETTY IMAGES FILE



### THE ZOE SHOW

Zoe Saldana had been plugging away at the Hollywood thing since 2000's ballet drama "Center Stage," doing supporting roles in films such as "The Terminal," "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" and "Guess Who." But the phone is ringing with bigger, better offers these days, thanks to 2009's career-making track record with "Star Trek" and "Avatar," which combined earned \$999 million and counting. She'll follow up "The Losers" and "Death at a Funeral" later this year with "Takers."

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#### poppicks



#### 'El Secreto De Sus Oios'



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Part cop thriller and part tale of star-crossed lovers, the Oscar-winning Argentine film "The Secret In Their Eyes" is occasionally overheated as melodrama. Its chronology. iumping between the present and 25 years ago, also glosses over some romantic and procedural complications that are never fleshed out. The story pulses with intrigue, though, as recently retired investigator Esposito (Ricardo Darin) can't shake memories of an unresolved rape and murder case

in his past. He also can't get over the coworker (Soledad Villamil) he loved but never had because she was engaged. It ain't no "Zodiac," but "El Secreto" stings in contemplating an empty life without any closure. Every character here has a tough history and a future that never seems like it's going to turn out the way they hope. Esposito can't stop looking backward; when all your questions are decades old, that's the only place you'll find the answers.



'The Girl on the Train' (NR)

Divided into two parts -

"Circumstances" and "Consequences" - this slow-building thriller is too minor for its own good, touching on issues of family strife and anti-Semitism with potential that doesn't add up. Still, as Jeanne (Emilie Dequenne) gets wrapped up with the wrong guy and a lie

that quickly boxes her in, the movie achieves an elegant tension that's unpredictable, even if director Andre Techine doesn't know where he's going.

#### **FASTER PAISED**

#### **'That Evening Sun'**

Holbrook is great in a drama that goes deeper than you expect."

#### 'Oceans'

"The movie needs more information and more stunning images that speak for themselves, not another earnest monologue from Captain Obvious.'

#### **'The** Back-Up Plan'

"Please. ladies

stav away or movies like this will never stop.

■ The Losers (PG-13) 2:30,5:15,8:00,10:40
■ Death at a Funeral (R) 2:00,4:45,7:20,10:00
■ Kick-Ass (R) 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:30
■ Date Night (PG-13) ◆ 1:00,3:15,5:30,7:50,10:15
■ Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,7:00,10:10

1:20,4:10,7:00,10:10 ■ Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 2:15.5:00.7:40.10:20

■ Hot Tub Time Machine (R) ◆ 3:00,5:45,8:15,10:45 ■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 1:40,4:00,6:45,9:15

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying

(888) AMC-4FUN

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ◆ 1:50,4:20,7:10,9:50 ■ The Losers (PG-13) 2:30,5:15,8:00,10:40

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ◆ 11:40,2:10,4:40,7:25,9:50
■ The Losers (PG-13) ◆ 11:55,2:40,5:20,7:45,10:10
■ Death at a Funeral (R) ◆ 11:05,11:45,12:30,1:20,2:00,2:50,3:40,4:15,5:00,5:50,6:30,7:15,8:00,8:50,9:30,1:01,5
■ Kick-Ass (R) 11:00,1:35,4:15,7:00,9:45
■ Date Night (PG-13) 11:10,1:15,3:30,5:40,7:50,1:0:00
■ Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13) 11:00,1:23,0:140,3:20,4:20,6:10,7:10,9:00,9:55

11:00,12:30,1:40,3:20,4:20,6:10,7:10,9:00,9:55

Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 11:50,1:30,2:30,4:00,5:05,

#### GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

■ Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (PG-13) 6:00 P.M. ■ That Evening Sun (PG-13) 6:00,8:15 ■ Bil' In My Love (NR) 8:15 P.M. ■ A Boy, a Wall and a Donkey (NR)

#### **CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)**

(800) 326-3264 #1642

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 10:20,12:30,1:00,3:30,

■ The Secret in Their Eyes (R) 1:00,4:05,7:10,10:10
■ The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (NR) 1:05,4:25,8:15
■ The Ghost Writer (FG-13) 1:10,7:20
■ Greenberg (R) 4:00,10:15

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 10:20,12:30,1:00,3:30, 4:00,6:30,7:10,9:20,10:15
■ The Losers (PG-13) ★ 11:15,1:30,2:15,4:30,5:20,7:20,8:15,10:00,11:00
■ Oceans (G) ★ 10:00,1:45,4:15,6:45,9:15
■ Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D (NR) ★ 7:00 P.M.
■ Death at a Funeral (R) ★ 1:20,4:40,7:30,9:50
■ Death at a Funeral (R) ★ 1:20,4:40,7:30,9:50
■ Death at a Funeral (R) ★ 1:20,4:40,7:30,9:50
■ Dath Night (PG-13) 10:15,1:25,0:3:15,6:15,9:10
■ Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 11:00,2:00,5:00,7:50,10:30
■ How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 10:30,1:10,3:50,9:40
■ Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 10:50,1:50,7:40,10:800 ■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 11:50,2:45,5:10,8:00,10:45 ■ Diary of a Wimpy Kid (PG) 10:10 A.M.

#### **DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)**

4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago (773) 784-0893

- Kick-Ass (R) 5:00,7:30,10:00
- Greenberg (R) 5:15,7:30,9:45 When You're Strange (NR) 6:00,8:00,10:00 How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 5:00,7:10,9:15

FORD CITY 14 (AMC) Show times change daily

6:25,7:30,9:05,10:05 **The Last Song** (PG) 11:20,1:50,4:25,6:50,9:20 **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 11:30,1:55,4:10,6:40,9:10 **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) 12:50,3:00,5:10,7:20,9:35

#### **LOGAN THEATRE**

vaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628

■ The Ghost Writer (PG-13) 1:55,4:10,6:25,8:40 ■ Green Zone (R) 2:05,4:05,6:10,8:20 ■ The Bounty Hunter (PG-13) 2:05,4:15,6:25,8:35 ■ Alice in Wonderland (PG) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10

#### MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604

The Girl on the Train (NR) 5:00,7:20,9:40
A Prophet (R) 8:30 P.M.
Ran (R) 5:20 P.M.
Don't Go in the House (R) 12:00 Midnight
My Son, My Son, What Have Ye Done (NR) 12:00 Midnight

#### PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago (888) AMC-4FUN

Show times change daily

■ A Shine of Rainbows (PG) 2:40,5:15,7:40,10:00
■ The Joneses (R) 2:15,4:45,9:40
■ The Runaways (R) 7:00 P.M.
■ City Island (PG-13) 2:25,7:20,9:50
■ Chloe (R) 5:00 P.M.

Handicapped Access ♦ Digital Sound ✓ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes 🦪 Hearing - Impaired PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. inappropriate for children under 13

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC) 322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago (888) AMC-4FUN

Show times change daily

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ◆ 11:15,12:15,2:00,3:00, 4:45,5:45,7:45,8:45,10:40,11:30

■ The Losers (PG-13) • 11:05,12:05,1:45,2:45,4:25,5:25 7:10,8:10,9:50,10:50

7:10,8:10,9:50,10:50
■ Coeans (G) ◆ 10:00,12:30,3:15,6:00,8:40,11:30
■ Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D (NR) 12:00 A.M.
■ Death at a Funeral (R) ◆ 10:45,1:30,4:15,7:05,9:45
■ Death at a Funeral (R) 11:50,2:30,5:15,8:00,10:30

Kick-Ass (R) 10:05,11:00,12:00,1:10,2:10,3:10,4:20,5:20,6:20,7:30,8:30,9:30,10:35,11:35

6.20/7.30,8.30,9.30,11.30,11.30 ■ The Joneses (R) 11:10,1:50,4:35,7:20,10:05 ■ Date Night (PG-13) ◆ 10:20,11:20,12:45,1:40,3:05,4:05, 5:35,6:40,8:15,9:15,10:45,11:45

■Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13) 11:40,2:40,5:40,8:40,11:40 ■ Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 10:30,1:20,4:10,7:00,9:40

Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 11:30.2:15.5:00.7:50.10:40

■ The Last Song (PG) 8:00,10:30
■ How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 11:25,2:05,4:40,7:25,10:00
■ Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 10:40,1:15,3:50,6:15,8:45,11:10

Greenberg (R) 10:15,1:00,3:45,6:15,8:50,11:25 How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 12:10,2:50,5:30 Alice in Wonderland 3D (PG) 10:10,12:45,3:30,6:15,9:00

#### **CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)**

7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago (800) 326-3264 #2309

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 9:50,11:40,12:40,2:10, 3:40,5:00,6:40,7:50,9:40,10:25,12:20,12:50 ■ The Losers (PG-13) ★ 10:10,10:50,1:20,3:00,3:50,5:30, 6:20,8:10,9:00,10:35,11:55,12:55

■ Oceans (G) ★ 11:15,1:45,4:15,6:45,9:15,11:30 ■ Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D (NR) ★ 7:00 P.M. ■ Death at a Funeral (R) ★ 10:00,12:20,2:40,5:20,8:00,10:20,12:45

■ Kick-Ass (R) ★ 11:30,12:45,2:15,3:30,5:15,6:15,7:15,8:15, 9:45.10:15.11:15.12:25 9.43, 10.151, 11.31, 229 Date Night (PG-13) 10.40,11:50,1:00,2:30,3:20,5:10,6:05, 7.40,8:20,10:00,1:03.0,12:15,1:00 Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 11:20,2:00,4:40,7:30,10:05,12:35 Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 10:30,1:15,4:00,6:50,9:30,12:01

■ Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 10:30,1:15,4:00,6:50,9:30,1:201
■ Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13)
10:20,1:10,4:10,7:10,9:55,12:40
■ The Last Song (PG) 10:15,12:50,3:45,6:30,9:10,11:50
■ How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 11:00,1:50,4:30,9:20,11:40
■ Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 11:10,1:40,4:45,7:45,10:10,12:30
■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG)11:46,2:04,50:72:09,550,12:10
■ Alice in Wonderland (PG) 10:45,1:30,4:20

#### **WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)**

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago (800) 326-3264 #1641

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 10:00.11:00.12:45.1:45.

3:30,4:30,6:15,7:15,9:00,10:00

The Losers (PG-13) \* 10:15,11:15,1:00,2:00,3:45,4:45.

6:30,7:30,9:20,10:15 ■ Kick-Ass (R) ★ 10:10.12:30.1:10.3:40.4:10.6:45.7:10.9:40.10:10

■ Date Night (PG-13) 10:30,11:30,1:30,2:30,4:20,5:10,6:50, 8:20 9:30 10:40

■ Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 10:45,1:20,4:00,7:00,9:45 ■ Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 11:50,2:40,5:20,7:50,10:30 ■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 10:20,1:15,4:15,6:40,9:10

#### SHOWPLACE 14 GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicag (800) 326-3264 #1646

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 1:15,3:50,6:45,9:40 ■ The Losers (PG-13) ★ 1:40,4:20,7:10,9:45

Death at a Funeral (R) \* 1:45,2:00,2:15,4:10,4:45,4:50 6:50.7:20.7:50.9:20.9:50.10:20

Kick-Ass (R) ★ 12:50,3:40,6:40,9:30

■ Date Night (PG-13) 2:45,5:10,7:45,10:20 ■ Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 1:30,4:00,7:00,9:55

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13

1:50.4:40.7:40.10:30 ■ The Last Song (PG) 1:20,4:30,7:15,10:10

■ How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 12:45,3:20,6:10,8:50 ■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 2:20,5:00,7:30,10:15

■ Diary of a Wimpy Kid (PG) 1:10,3:45,6:30,9:10 ■ Our Family Wedding (PG-13) 12:40,3:30,6:20,9:00

#### **CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)**

(800) 326-3264 #1644 ■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 1:30,4:00,6:50,9:40

The Losers (PG-13) \* 2:00,4:45,7:15,9:50

Oceans (G) \* 1:45.4:15.6:45.9:15

■ Death at a Funeral (R) ★ 1:00,2:40,3:50,5:10,6:15,7:45,9:20,10:20

■ Kick-Ass (R) ★ 12:30.1:20.3:20.4:30.6:10.7:10.9:00.10:00 ■ The Perfect Game (PG) ★ 12:50,3:40,6:20,9:30

■ Date Night (PG-13) 1:50,4:20,6:40,9:10 ■ Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 1:15,4:10,7:00,9:45 ■ Clash of the Titans (PG-13) 2:20,5:00,7:30,10:15
■ Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13)

1.40 4.40 7.40 10:30 ■ The Last Song (PG) 2:10,4:50,7:20,10:10

■ How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 1:10,3:45,6:30,8:50

### SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION

Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago

(312) 564-2104

The Back-up Plan (PG-13) \* 11:30,11:50,2:00,2:40, 4:45,5:20,7:20,8:00,10:00,10:40

The Losers (PG-13) \* 14:05,1:250,1:30,3:30,4:30,6:15,7:00,9:10,9:40

Oceans (G) \* 11:15,1:45,4:15,6:45,9:15

Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D (NR) \* 10:00 P.M.

Death at a Funeral (R) \* 10:50,11:20,1:50,2:10,4:20,5:00, 6:50,7:30,9:30,10:20

Nick-Ass (R) \* 10:10,10:40,1:00,1:40,4:00,4:40,7:10,7:40,9:55,10:30

Date Night (PG-13) 11:00,11:45,1:15,2:20,3:40,4:50,6:05,7:30,8:30,9:45,10:50

7:30,8:30,9:45,10:50

Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 11:40,2:30,5:10,8:10,10:45

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13) 10:20,1:20,4:10,7:15, (10)

How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 10:30,1:10,3:50,6:30,9:00

Alice in Wonderland 3D (PG) 10:00,12:45,3:45,6:40,9:20

Avatar 3D (PG-13) 11:10,2:50,6:20

VIP Premium 21+

■ The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ VIP Premium 21+
11:30,2:00,4:45,7:20,10:00
■ Date Night (PG-13) VIP Premium 21+ 11:00,1:15,3:40,6:05,8:30,10:50

#### OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

1022 Lake Street, Oak Park (630) 444-FILM #560

The Back-up Plan (PG-13) ★ 12:00.2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20

Oceans (G) ★ 12:00.2:00,4:00,6:00,8:00,10:00

Kick-Ass (R) ★ 2:00.4:35,7:10,9:45

Date Night (PG-13) 1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25

Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40

The Last Song (PG) 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50

How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00

#### **EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)**

1715 Maple Ave., Evanston (847) 492-0123 &

(847) 492-0123 & Pulp Fiction (R) \* 12:01 Midnight Oceans (G) \* 12:15.2:30,4:45,7:00,9:15 Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D (NR) \* 12:01 A.M. The Back-up Plan (PG−13) \* 11:30,2:20,4:55,7:30,10:10 The Losers (PG−13) \* 11:35,2:10,4:35,7:05,9:35,12:01 The Secret in Their Eyes (R) \* 11:45,1:15,2:45,4:15,5:45,7:15,8:40,10:15 City Island (PG−13) 11:50,2:15,4:50,7:20,9:50 Clash of the Titans 3D (PG−13) 13:45,2:25,5:10,7:55,10:30 Clash of the Titans (PG−13) 13:56,5:59.955 Date Night (PG−13) 11:40,12:30,2:05,3:05,4:25,5:35,6:45,9:05,11:20 Death at a Funeral (R) + 11:25,12:40,1:50,3:00,4:05,5:20,6:30,7:40,8:50,1:00,01:130 Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 8:05,10:35

6:30,7:40,8:50,10:00,11:30 Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 8:05,10:35 How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 12:35,3:10,5:40,8:15,10:40 How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 11:35,2:00,4:10,6:25,8:45 Kick-Ass (R) \* 11:40,12:25,1:30,2:30,3:20,4:20,5:15,6:10,7:10,8:10,9:00,10:05,10:50,11:50

■ The Ghost Writer (PG-13) 12:55 P.M. ■ The Joneses (R) ★ 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:45

## Twitter takes

RedEye and Metromix offer the quickest movie reviews in Chicago—140 characters to be exact. And you write them. Send your review to our movie guy, Matt Pais, at **twitter.com/mattpais** and let the debate begin. Please limit your reviews to ones still in theaters.



#### **KICK-ASS**

**@vaughnchicago:** Kick-Ass really kicks butt! Good ultra-violent comic book fun. Hit Girl steals the movie. Grab some popcorn & enjoy the ride.

**@reddynew:** Kick-Ass: dorky, bloody, gruesome, fun.

**@rhea\_butcher:** Kick Ass was great. Little slow to start but the action really pays off.

@phampants: kick-ass makes

me want 2b a super hero. Doubt I can handle the beating. Too bad I'm not a girl, cuz hit girl is way cooler

**@BVAX:** Kick Ass-Did just that!!! Not your run of the mill coming of age teeny movie. These kids are serious business!

@chowbelle: Kick-Ass equals Ninja Assassin with foulmouthed kids in goofy costumes. Surprisingly, that's a good thing.

#### **DEATH AT A FUNERAL**

#### @funnymunky13:

#deathatafuneral was HILARIOUS! I actually got sushd for laughing too loud-by my boyfriend.

@MrsSuperBadJ: I saw Death @ the Funeral on Sunday & some parts werr funny but not hilarious. I believe we coulda waited to see it on dvd!

#### HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

@lpionek: went and saw Dragon. Such a cute movie and the animation is incredible! Humor for everyone. Loved it.

@BadProgramming: I LOVED HTTYD!! #KickAss was pretty good - great action sequences, funny, but #HTTYD gave me goosebumps #NowPlaying





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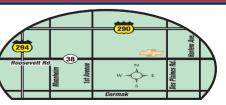
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## J. lows & highs

#### Newsday

Dancer-singer-actress Jennifer Lopez hadn't danced, sung or acted much since taking time off to have kids—though since People reportedly paid her and her husband, Marc Anthony, \$4 million to \$6 million in 2008 to parade them on a magazine cover. It's ironically the most successful thing she's done in years. Before her hiatus, she had a string of flop movies and hadn't had a single crack the Billboard Top 10.

Now the 40-year-old star is calibrating a comeback that has included guest appearances on "How I Met Your Mother," "Saturday Night Live" and an upcoming episode of "Glee," all to support her romantic comedy opening Friday, "The Back-Up Plan."

In the meantime, with businesses encompassing everything from music to movies to a clothing line to a Cuban restaurant, she's the ninth-richest woman in entertainment, says Forbes magazine, which in 2007 estimated her net worth at \$110 million.

So, shed no tears for her career. Dancer-singer-actress or waitress-writer-dog walker, we all have our highs and lows. Here are hers:

#### Fledgling 1986-1993

After her film debut as a teen in the 1986 indie drama "My Little Girl," she went on to gain a toehold as a professional dancer. Joining the Fly Girls troupe on the sketch-comedy series "In Living Color" in 1991, she left after two seasons to dance in Janet Jackson and Puff Daddy videos, and play a prominent role in the 1993 TV movie "Nurses on the Line: The Crash of Flight 7."

#### **Up-and-comer** 1993-95

Lopez quickly got cast in the short-lived CBS drama "Second Chances," becoming one of only two of the ensemble to transition to its brief revamp as "Hotel Malibu." After three episodes of the Fox drama "South Central," she gained attention and an Independent Spirit

Award nomination in 1995 for her role in Gregory Nava's "My Family." Flop: "Money Train"

#### **Big break** 1996-1997

Following Francis Ford Coppola's "Jack" and Bob Rafelson's "Blood and Wine" came the explosion: "Selena," Nava's 1997 biopic of the murdered Tejano singer, did modest box office but made Lopez a star. The horror hit "Anaconda," starring Lopez's tight, sweaty T-shirt, swiftly brought more attention. Flop: "UTurn"

#### **Big time** 1998-2001

Lopez scored great reviews for her performance as a federal marshal in Steven Soderbergh's "Out of Sight." She scored a No. 1 single, "If You Had My Love," in 1999, and her debut album, "On the 6," went all the way to



No. 8. Now she was riding high as a movie star, with the successful "The Cell" and "The Wedding Planner," plus a No. 1 album (2001's "J.Lo") that spawned two chart-topping singles.

#### Cruising along 2001-03

Two movies tanked in a row ("Angel Eyes" and "Enough"), though "Maid in Manhattan" proved a hit. Her album "J to Tha L-O!: The Remixes" made it to No. 1. Her next, "This Is Me ... Then," peaked at No. 2. Her signature single, "Jenny From the Block," stalled at No. 3 in late 2002.

#### Jenny from the flop 2003-07

Following media saturation of "Bennifer"— Jennifer and fiance Ben Affleck—the couple's movie "Gigli" was a critical and commercial dud, becoming the first movie to sweep all six major categories of the Razzie Awards. "Monster-in-Law" was a modest hit. Her album "Rebirth" peaked at No. 2, and both "Brave" and her Spanish-language "Como Ama una Mujer" reached No. 12. Flops: "Jersey Girl," "Shall We Dance," "An Unfinished Life," "El Cantante"

#### **Comeback?** 2009-10

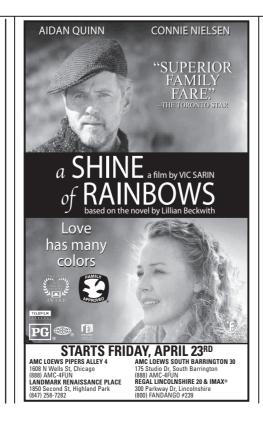
Falling during a dance routine at the American Music Awards in November didn't help. Neither did that much-derided catsuit she wore on "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve." Plus, Epic Records dropped her in February, putting her album "Love?" in limbo. After "The Back-Up Plan," Lopez has another romantic comedy, "The Governess," in the works.

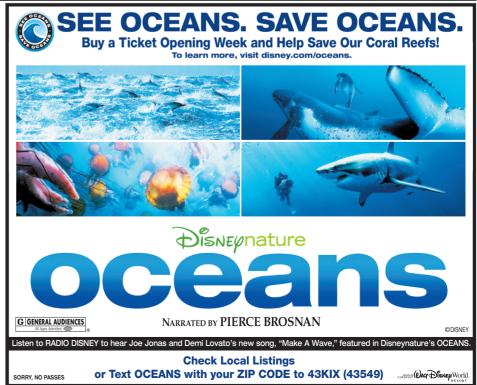
You never know. Jenny's been around the block, and she's confounded expectations before. We may just find ourselves high on J.Lo all over again.

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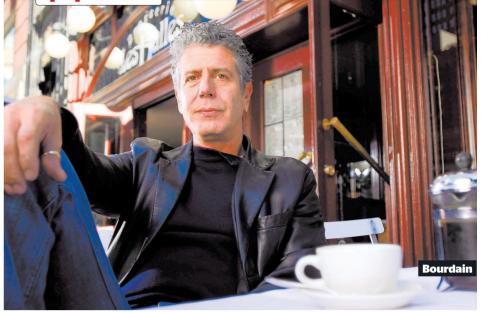
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#### **Chicago Tribune**

We can go on with a lengthy exposition about who Anthony Bourdain is, but that would take up precious newsprint, and frankly, what he has to say is far more interesting. If you're reading this, you know his name. The host of "No Reservations" on the Travel Channel, Bourdain will appear at the Chicago Theatre on Saturday to muse on food, television and, surely, Rachael Ray. Here he is.

#### What's with all you food folks touring? Paula Deen, Guy Fieri, now you? Maybe you should organize a Monsters of TV Chefs Mega Tour.

At the end of the day, all of these guys have to cook. I don't even cook on stage. I don't really understand it, but it's fun for me to do. It's lucrative. ... I talk for about an hour and then I take questions. To the extent that they've been drinking, that makes a big difference. Hopefully the questions are provocative and hopefully confrontational.

#### You enjoy the confrontation?

I'd rather be challenged by somebody who thinks what something I said was total [B.S.], rather than have somebody say, "dude, where are you going to have drinks after the show." I love a spirited debate as much as anybody. I even like being wrong, if something can make a good case that I'm full of [crap] on something. In a lot of ways, that's what I do professionally, traveling. I'm confronted by my own ignorance or misunderstandings all the time.

#### What can you say about the Chicago food scene that would annoy Chicago foodies?

I don't like deep dish pizza, except for Burt's Place [in Morton Grove] which was quite

#### **Anthony Bourdain**

When: 8 p.m. Saturday Where: Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. Price: \$43-\$78; ticketmaster.com

» Read the complete interview at chicagotribune.com/stew

wonderful. Most deep dish is awful and not pizza, I don't know what it is. It's ugly stuff. But that's about it. I love Chicago. Chicago's one of the few American cities that's big enough to support a large number of high-end restaurants. A lot of cities cannot support restaurants like Charlie Trotter or Alinea or Blackbird. It's a big town, it's got great food on the high end and low end. And I'm on record admitting the Chicago hot dog is far superior than the New York hot dog.

#### You featured Mancow on the Chicago episode of No Reservations. Why Mancow?

[Laughing] I don't have to agree with him to like him. He's actually a quiet, thoughtful guy. He's a monster douche on radio and our politics are as different as anyone could be. But I also get along with Ted Nugent really well. I know Mancow through a mutual friend. He's been extremely loyal to me from very early on, giving me huge amounts of time on his radio show to promote my books. He's a loyal friend to me. And I don't have to love the act.

#### Did you hear Rachael Ray has a line of dog food called "Nutrish?" Your response, please.

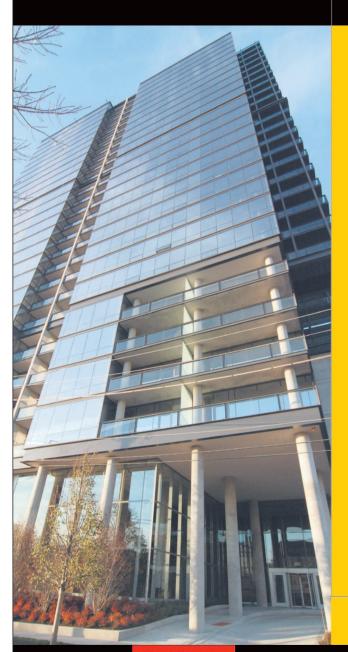
I guess it's an easy joke. I've kind of stopped picking on Rachael. Because A) it's low hanging fruit, and B) she's sent me a fruit basket.

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## Jeggings not for everyone

Just when women had shaken off the last vestiges of anxiety over the skinny jean, the sado-fashionistic denim masterminds came up with the jegging-a creation so skintight, so utterly form-fitting, it makes the skinny jean look almost baggy in comparison.

The jegging: part jeans, part legging. Entirely responsible for any recent runs on Weight Watchers.

Though denim leggings appeared at fashion-forward shops last fall, it's only this spring that they slipped into the mainstream, available in upscale boutiques for upward of \$200, mall stores such as J Crew, and in discount department stores for less than \$20.

And they're not going anywhere in a hurry. "Last fall, people couldn't make the distinction between the skinny jean and this one—which is like a snap-on tight, tight like a glove," stylist Pascale Lemaire says. The



advantage to the denim legging, fans say, is comfort. Fabulously stretchy and usually lightweight, they've got more give than skinny jeans. But because they're more substantial than leggings, they're a tad more forgiving.

As happened when the skinny jeans debuted, a lot of women are a little leery of the painted-on look, wondering if jeggings are for them. And Lemaire thinks their concerns are more than justified.

On the street, she's been seeing a lot of unfortunate jegging faux pas, and the stylist thinks if women dare to wear these things, they need to abide by some basic ground rules.

Hide the Jeggings Butt: If Lemaire can see the outline of your underwear, you're doing it wrong. For spring, Lemaire likes denim leggings with long, loose tunics that hit midthigh or under a very short dress. It's essentially a way to wear something too short to wear alone, she says.

Don't pair them with tight tops: Lemaire recommends a top with a bit of an A-line cut to create a more balanced silhouette.

Wear heels or ...: For shoes, flats will work, but Lemaire prefers jeggings with a heel, a wedge or a shoe-boot, which keep the slim and sleek leg line.

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#### **'Mothman'** 8 p.m. Saturday, Svfv



» Read more from Staite at redeye chicago.com/ showpatrol.





## From flying ships to flying monsters

Jewel Staite returns to TV screens this weekend, and for once she won't be in outer space.

The 28-year-old appears in Syfy channel's latest movie of the week, "Mothman." The network has taken a slasher-style flick and twisted it ever so slightly: The killer is not a mask-wearing psychopath, but an avenging insect-man everyone assumes is just a creepy ghost story.

For Staite, starring as one of bug boy's targets gave her the chance to visit one of her favorite places, Louisiana, and to get weapons and stunt training. It was a changeup from her famous roles as a doctor in "Stargate Atlantis" and a spaceship mechanic in "Firefly."

"It was a lot of fun," the actress told me during a call with reporters this week. "The best part is I didn't have a lot of techno babble to spew out and memorize. Usually I have these speeches talking about spaceship mechanics and all that kind of stuff. So this was a lot easier for me. Yes, it was a great."

In the film, Staite plays Katherine, a reporter who returns to her hometown to cover the local Mothman Festival, which celebrates the scary legend that claims the monster avenges murders, but can come into this world only through reflective surfaces such as mirrors.

It opens with a flashback to 10 years earlier, when a teen Katherine and her friends commit an unspeakable act of violence that apparently angers the mirror-loving murderer. Staite was ready with an answer when asked if she thinks twice about looking in mirrors now.

"I always do," she joked. "All depending on the time of day."

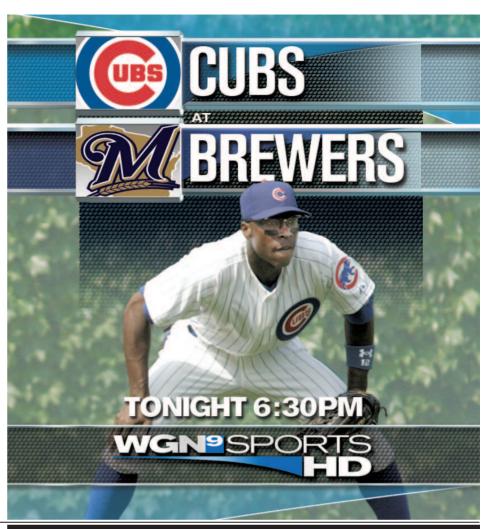
#### 'Party Down' 9 p.m. Friday, Starz

This cult comedy hit begins its second season with a big loss. Jane Lynch, a standout presence from Season 1, now brings her magic to "Glee." But the series creators have rebounded just fine, adding Megan Mullally to the cast as a sweet-and-clueless stage mom who joins the team of cater-waiters made up of struggling actors and writers. They constantly are reminded—at each party they cater to the Hollywood elite—that they have a long way to go, or will never make it. Basing a comedy on disillusion and disappointment can be tricky, but the writers and cast deftly deliver some of the most honest and scathing comedy on TV.

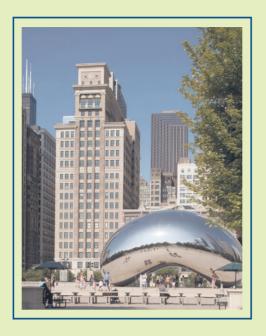


#### **'Gravity'** 9:30 p.m. Friday, Starz

Eric Schaeffer, the man who made viewers alternately groan and laugh with his short-lived comedy "Starved" about struggling with weight loss, is back with what sounds like an even less appetizing series idea: suicide. But the darkly funny "Gravity," which follows members of a support group for people who have failed to kill themselves, works. Although it takes a little while to get used to their whining—yes, that sounds pretty heartless of me—the characters will work their way into your thoughts, and maybe even your heart.









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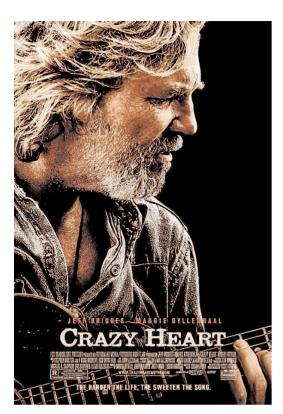
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#### 'Crazv Heart'

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Jeff Bridges as the aging, road-weary country songwriter Bad Blake is the primary reason to see "Crazv Heart." but the tale of the long road to a form of redemption for the singer also is noteworthy. Bridges absolutely deserved the Oscar for stripping away all ego and perfectly plaving such a drunken. sad-sack character who blows everyone away with his music. Watch for Colin Farrell's surprisingly good singing as Blake's ponytailed protege who has gone on to a monster country music career, eclipsing his mentor along the way.

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#### **VIDEO**

#### **Conan O'Brien Sings** 'Creep' on tour

Watch at YouTube.com

Future TBS late night host Conan O'Brien began his "Legally Prohibited" tour last week, and here's your first look: O'Brien doing a ridiculously cockneyed Thom Yorke impression while singing Radiohead's signature hit, "Creep," This was just the sound check, so the show must be amazing. If you have tickets for a future date. however, you may want to avoid videos of the tour so it won't spoil any of the surprises you paid at least \$40 to see. This one should be OK because, again, it's just the sound check. But what a sound check! JOHN LINDSTEDT, POPMATTERS.COM

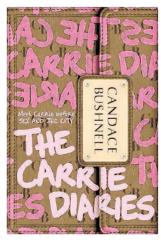
#### ВООК 'The Carrie Diaries'

by Candace **Bushnell** \$18.99 out Tuesday What was "Sex and the City" lead Carrie Bradshaw like in high school? How did she end up becoming a writer? And how did she end up in New York and meeting

Samantha? Fans

will find answers in

this new book from



"Sex" author Candace Bushnell. "The Carrie Diaries" takes readers to the suburbs of Connecticut where teenage Carrie fell for a guy who ditched her for her best friend. Bushnell also tells how Carrie navigates her way through the world of dating. "Rule number one: Why is it that the one time a cute guy talks to you, you have a friend who's in crisis?" LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE

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DIFFICULTY RATING:

#### **WANT MORE GAMES?**

RedEye's Puzzle Master will stump you with his brainteasers at redeyechicago.com/puzzler.

1	3	9	5	7	8	2	4	6
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#### THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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\*Add tax, title license and \$154.38 doc fee, rebates applied. Lease on approved credit score. Lease, 10k miles per year, 15 cents after. Lessee responsible for excess wear and early termination of lease. Option to purchase; Impreza \$10,550, Forester \$12,736, Legacy \$12,207 \*Finance on approved credit score, subject to vehicle insurance and availability. †Based on New Subaru retail sales from SOA, in Illinois, for all of 2008, 2009 & year-to-date 2010. Must be licensed driver to win Kayak. Drawing 5/28 @ noon. All offers end in 3 days.

#### ACROSS

Blacksmith's furnace Indelible mark

14

20

42

60

64

67

27

- 10 Evening bugle call 14 Toward the left side of a ship

- of a ship
  15 Opening
  16 Irritate
  17 Wild fight
  18 Snakelike fishes
  19 Make \_\_dash for;
  dart toward
  20 Eynanded 20 Expanded
- 24 Ginger cookie
- 25 Drywall coating 26 Conquer
- 29 Sports building 30 "\_ to Billy Joe" 31 Agreement with

- 31 Agreement with
  a landlord
  33 "\_\_lsaw, I conquered"
  37 Doe or buck
  39 Satisfied
  41 Math class, for short
  42 Beginning
  44 Of the kidneys

- 46 Ala.'s neighbor 47 Anguish; grief
- 49 Textbook chapter 51 Stop sign's shape
- 54 Pigsty dinner 55 Zigzag skiing 56 Abnormal
- 60 Show up 61 Capital of Norway
- 63 Worship 64 Claim as a fact
- 65 Handy 66 Pays monthly for use
- 67 Relaxation 68 Piece of
- office furniture 69 Gown

#### DOWN

- Renown Golf tournament
- with the punches
- Vegetable oil

68

38

48

65

- Unending Flock animals
- 6 7 Like most schools 8
- Everybody Provide new
- shoe bottoms
- Take care of business Shoot toward
- Piece of china Passover meal
- 21 Yard exits
- Rajah's wife
- 25 Primp
- 26 Nincompoop 27 TV's Barbara

15

18

- 28 Commissions 29 Showy flower
- 32 Burr or Spelling 34 Kennel sounds
- 35 Venus de \_ 36 Actor Richard
- 38 Warning that danger is imminent 40 Dawdle
- 43 African nation 45 Spotted cat
- 48 Loch \_; largest lake
- in Scotland 50 Lunch spoiler for Miss Muffet
- for Miss Muffet 51 Actor's award 52 Indonesian spice 53 Subdues 54 Baby carrier? 56 "Woe is me!" 57 Sherbet holder

- 58 \_ and crafts 59 Not as much 62 Observe



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**SATISFYING** 

STRANGE

SILLY

## Goofy, great & egad!

It's Friday, which means it's time to look back on the week that was in celebrity news and apply my labels of judgment to help you sort it all out. EMILY ROSENBAUM MAKA, REDEYE



#### 'Idol' giveth and 'Idol' taketh away

"American Idol" spent two-plus hours Wednesday night exhorting people to donate

money and talking about the importance of giving and caring for others—and then the show kicked a contestant to the curb. Will someone take up a collection for poor Tim Urban?



#### Hike's hidden meaning

Sandra Bullock has had to endure many a public humiliation recently, but usmagazine. com decided

com decided to make it even worse by turning her recent nature walk into a psychological deconstruction. The mag talked to a body language expert who said Bullock's scarf was "hiding her heart win-

dow." What would Freud say?



#### Gabby the great

Gabourey Sidibe is hosting "Saturday Night Live" this week with musical guest MGMT. If the promos are

any indication, this is going to be a lot of fun. The cheeky Sidibe hams it up with Andy Samberg, and the two have great comic chemistry in the spots, which are available on Hulu. Can't wait to see Gabby in action.



#### **MILF** dis

"Biggest Loser" trainer Jillian Michaels tells Women's Health she is unwilling to become pregnant because she

doesn't want to ruin her body. "I'm going to adopt. I can't handle doing that to my body." Wow, way to destroy the self-image of millions of moms, Michaels.



#### The GOOP scoop

Gwyneth Paltrow has more eye-rolling advice to share on her GOOP online newsletter. Here we learn about a "Chinese medical perspec-



tive" on allergy relief from someone named Adele Reising. "Try getting up just before dawn, when the black night sky slowly turns to blue. The sun rises in the East, and the blue color of dawn opens to our eyes and we experience the new day." Or you could take an allergy pill.





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#### **Archie** discovers GTL

The guidos and guidettes of "Jersey Shore" have unce-unced their way into one of America's Iongest-running comics: Archie and Friends. In issue No. 145, Archie and his gang of friends encounter the cast of "The Riverdale Shore" and are impressed enough to all get "Jersey Shore" makeovers. We wonder if Jughead will get into fistfights outside of bars.



## Razzie will go back

Sandra Bullock was a good sport about winning a Razzie, and now she's being a good sport about returning it. She will give back her worst actress trophy after picking up the prototype at the Golden Raspberry awards ceremony in March, eonline.com reports. Bullock's rep says, "We will be returning the Razzie to them shortly."

« That's when Christina Aguilera (right) will perform on "American Idol." That's the season finale for the big sing show.

the season finale for the big sing show.



O and J **Oprah Winfrey** apparently is even richer, and it's all because of Michelle Obama. WWD.com reports the media mogul said when she saw Mrs. Obama dressed in an affordable

J.Crew cardigan, blouse and skirt ensemble on Jay Leno's show in October 2008. she decided to become an investor in the company. "And that was a very good decision," Winfrey is quoted as saying.

#### Favreau's tribute to a friend

There will be a few fun celebrity cameos in "Iron Man 2" (Bill O'Reilly, for instance, and Stan Lee in a particularly inspired disguise) and one sad one. The late Adam Goldstein, better known as DJ AM, is in a key scene, the L.A. Times says. The decision to leave the scene in was a difficult one for director Jon Favreau, who invited Goldstein to the set last spring and became friends with the DJ.

#### Oh, Britannia, you're so bad

Celebrity shame sex? We're in. Britain's The Mirror polled women, asking whom they know they shouldn't have sex with, but totally would if given the opportunity. On top of the dirty-doing list is Simon Cowell. Also making the cut are Barack Obama at No. 7 and Ricky Gervais at No. 8. Justin Rieber also is on the list (Note: The age of consent is 16 in Britain, but ewww.)





- Variety

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